

## EDITORIALS

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### A frivolous matter

In our opinion

06-17-2006

Earlier this month, a committee established by Congress to learn what Americans want in the way of health care issued its interim report. It got slightly more media attention than forecasts for this year's Brazil nut crop did.

But, hey, why should the mass media care much about something as dull and unimportant as health care when there are things like flag burning amendments and the Brangelina baby to cover?

Then again, the committee, known as the Citizens' Health Care Working Group, did go out on a limb. It said that the federal government should guarantee all Americans have basic health insurance coverage, adding that "assuring health care is a shared social responsibility." The 14-member group reached this radical conclusion after visiting 50 communities and hearing from 23,000 people.

The committee's findings will be officially presented to President Bush and Congress in the fall, after a 90-day public comment period.

We realize that this trivial issue probably does not matter to you at all, that it probably does not affect you or anyone you know or care about, but, on the off chance that it does, why not visit the group's Web site at [www.citizenshealthcare.gov](http://www.citizenshealthcare.gov)? There, you can learn about the interim report and submit your comments.

But after doing something that silly, get your priorities back in order. Surf the Net for pics of the Brangelina papoose, or e-mail a message to your senators about the real threats to our well-being — like those dastardly flag desecraters!

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